

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 1955

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

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THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced that he has designated the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization as the officer of the Government responsible for furnishing advice to Executive Agencies with respect to essential national-security interests that may be involved in applying the President's Executive Order of December 17, 1954, relating to the Buy American Act.

The President acted pursuant to Section 3(d) of the Executive Order which provides:

"Section 3. Nothing in this order shall affect the authority or responsibility of an Executive Agency:

- (d) To reject any bid or offer for materials of foreign origination if such rejection is necessary to protect essential national-security interests after receiving advice with respect thereto from the President or from any officer of the Government designated by the President to furnish such advice."

In his memorandum, which went to Dr. Arthur S. Flemming as the present Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization, the President stated:

"It is my conviction that exceptions under this provision of the Executive Order should be made only upon a clear showing that the payment of a greater differential than the Order provides for is justified by considerations of national security."

The text of the President's memorandum to the Director of Office of Defense Mobilization is as follows:

Pursuant to Section 3(d) of Executive Order 10582, December 17, 1954, you are hereby designated to furnish advice to Executive agencies with respect to the rejection of bids or offers to furnish materials of foreign origin upon the ground that such rejection is necessary to protect essential national security interests.

It is my conviction that exceptions under this provision of the Executive Order should be made only upon a clear showing that the payment of a greater differential than the Order provides for is justified by considerations of national security.

/s/ Dwight D. Eisenhower